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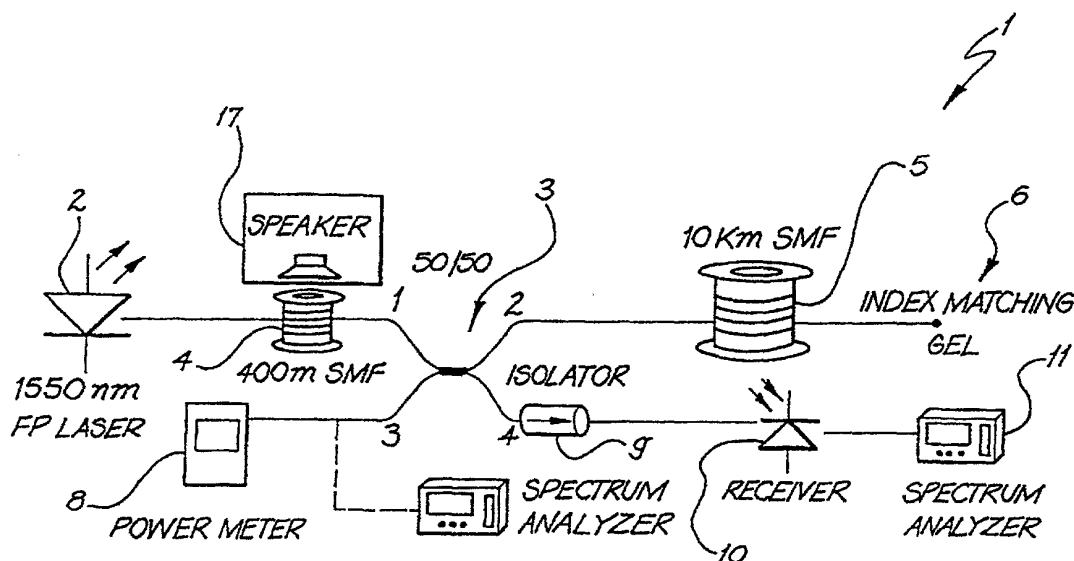
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(54) Title: NOISE SUPPRESSION IN LIGHTWAVE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract

An optical communications system comprising: a laser source; an optical waveguide interconnected to the laser source to carry optical signal from the source to an optical receiver; an optical receiver interconnected to the optical waveguide for decoding the signal; a mechanical modulator adapted to substantially continuously mechanically perturb a portion of the optical waveguide so as to reduce Rayleigh backscattering from the optical waveguide.